(e) and (f). Five Emergency Service Cells are being operated by Oil Industry in Delhi, which are considered sufficient for the present in Delhi.

[Translation]

Kerosene Oil Agencies

1851. DR. BALIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Uttar Pradesh for which advertisement for allotment of LPG; Petrol/Diesel and Kerosene Oil agencies were published during the last three years;

(b) the names of the places for which allotment were made/not made alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the places included in marketing scheme and the dates of their interview?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c). During the last three years, oil companies issued advertisements for 417 retail outlets, 228 LPG distributorships and 58 SKO/LDO dealerships in Uttar Pradesh. Out of the above, interviews were held for 275 ROs, 98 LPG distributorships and 25 SKO/LDO dealerships and Letters of Intent were issued for 266 retail outlets, 98 LPG distributorships and 24 SKO/LDO dealerships. Letter of Intent in 9 retail outlets and 1 SKO/LDO dealership have not yet been issued. In remaining 142 retail outlet dealerships, 130 LPG distributorships and 30 SKO/LDO dealerships, interviews have not been conducted.

English as Compulsory Subject

1852. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether English is a compulsory subject in the Civil Services Examination conducted by Union Public Service Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the views of Chief Ministers were invited in respect of continuance or withdrawal of English as a subject in accordance with the recommendations of the Dr. Satish Chandra Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b). There is a Compulsory paper on English in the written test of the Civil Services (Main) Examination. The paper is of matriculation standard and the marks obtained in it do not count for final ranking. Such a paper was recommended by the Kothari Committee and is a part of the revised scheme of the examination introduced in 1979.

(c) to (d). Yes Sir. The views of most of the Chief Ministers on the recommendations of the Dr. Satish Chandra Committee have been received. The Government is of the view that it would be possible to take a decision on the general language policy for the examinations of UPSC only after a wider consensus is achieved.

[English]

Fire at Tankage Plant

1853. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a major fire broke out at the additional tankage plant of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited at Visakhapatnam on the November 9, 1996;

(b) if so, the causes thereof;

(c) the damage caused due to the said fire;

(d) the persons killed/injured in the fire; and

(e) the measures taken to check the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e). A fire broke out on 8th November, 1996 at additional tankage projects site of HPCL outside the main refinery complex at Visakhapatnam. The fire was caused due to ignition of Naphtha which migrated to the additional tankage project site through the Naphtha shipping line.

The pipeline manifolds and Naphta tank were damaged due to the fire. The incident has resulted in the death of two persons. Three persons suffered injuries.

A Committee has been constituted by HPCL to recommend measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

Hydro Power Generation

1854. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY :
SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the share of installed hydro-generation capacity in the total generation capacity in the country has come down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;